

ADDED 2-15-74

STATE	Illinois
COUNTY	Cook
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

Getty Tomb

Getty Family Mausoleum

2. LOCATION

Graceland Cemetery, North Clark Street and West Irving Park Road

CITY OR TOWN	Chicago	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT	9th - Sidney Yates
STATE	Illinois	CODE	17
		COUNTY	Cook
			031

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District Site Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Restricted
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> No
		<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	funerary
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Trustees of the Graceland Cemetery Improvement Fund

208 South La Salle Street

Chicago Illinois 17

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Trustees of the Graceland Cemetery Improvement Fund

208 South La Salle Street

Chicago Illinois 17

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1964 Federal State County Local

Library of Congress

Continued, #6

Washington D.C. 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9th Congressional District - Congressman Sidney Yates

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Illinois	
COUNTY Cook	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Continued, No. 6 - Representation in Existing Surveys

Illinois Historic Structures Survey (state)

1972

1800 South Prairie Avenue, Chicago, Illinois

Commission on Chicago Historical & Architectural Landmarks (local)

1971

320 North Clark Street, Room 800, Chicago, Illinois

(designated as a "Chicago Landmark" by the City Council, March 10, 1971)

Continued, No. 9 - Bibliography

Szarkowski, John. The Idea of Louis Sullivan. Minneapolis: The University of Minnesota Press, 1956. p. 129-133. photographs

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

RECORD THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Getty Tomb is rectangular in form, with dimensions of approximately 14 feet in width and 18 feet in depth. It is constructed of grey Bedford Limestone, and rests on a 12 inch base, made of four slabs of the same limestone. The base extends approximately 15 inches beyond the walls. A slab roof, more than 12 inches deep, covers the tomb and also projects slightly beyond the walls. The top of this roof is not flat, but has three broad convex indentations running its full width, making the top of the roof appear scalloped when viewed from either side of the tomb. A band of intricate foliate basrelief ornament trims the lower part of the four edges of the roof.

An arched doorway penetrates the front wall of the tomb, and a semicircular window, or lunette, penetrates each of the two side walls .

The limestone blocks of the lower half of each wall are of smooth ashlar finish, while the upper half of each wall is covered an incised all-over pattern of octagonal panels enclosing eight-pointed stars. On the front and two side walls, wide arches that begin above the ashlar finish surround the top part of the doorway and the lunettes. The deep wedge--shape stones, or voussoirs, that form each arch are incised with four concentric semicircular bands of foliate ornament that alternate with smooth surfaces.

The outer gates of the entrance and the grilles in the deep-set lunettes are bronze with pierced designs of Sullivan's intricate ornament. Behind the outer gates and deep within the doorway is the solid entrance door, also bronze, which is covered with bas-relief ornament.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATES (If Applicable and Known) **Built 1890**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Getty Family Mausoleum, or Getty Tomb, has long been regarded as one of the finest structures designed by Louis Henry Sullivan, architect, writer, and philosopher. Sullivan, although partially educated at the historically oriented Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris, was a major force in the attempt to create an original, indigenous American architecture. He consciously rejected all literal historic precedent in his designs. These designs were often embellished with his unique style of ornament, base on foliate or geometric forms which he conceived as being of, instead of on, the building. Sullivan literally "grew" his ornament out of the structure, and is said to have drawn the design for the gates on this building himself, full size. This building is considered to possess some of Sullivan's finest ornament.

Although Sullivan was to die in poverty in 1924, this building was designed at the height of his career, in 1890, or roughly at the same time as most of his other world famous designs, such as the Auditorium Theater (1886-89), the Wainwright Building (1891), the Schiller Building (1892), and the Transportation Building for the Columbian Exposition (1893). His later designs include the Schlesinger & Mayer (Carson, Pirie & Scott) store (1898-1901), and a series of small banks, most notably that at Owatonna, Minnesota (1908). Through his buildings and later his writings, he was a major influence on numerous architects, particularly his one-time employee, Frank Lloyd Wright.

Wright himself said that the Getty Tomb was "entirely Sullivan's own, a piece of sculpture, a statue, a great poem addressed to human sensibilities as such. Outside the realm of music what finer requiem."

The significance of this design was easily recognized abroad; a plaster cast of the doorway was exhibited and received an award at the Paris Exposition of 1900.

The structure itself, built as the tomb of Carrie Eliza Getty, deceased wife of a prominent Chicago businessman, is located in Graceland Cemetery, the burial place of many prominent Chicagoans. It stands across a pond from Sullivan's earlier Ryerson Tomb (1890), and only a short distance away from the grave of Sullivan himself. The building was designated an official Chicago Landmark in 1971 and a citation from the old Chicago Architectural Landmarks Commission states: "... Stone and bronze stand transformed in rich yet delicate, ornament, a requiem for the dead, an inspiration to the living."

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Andrews, Wayne. Architecture, Ambition, and Americans. New York: The Free Press, 1964. p. 219.
- Bush-Brown, Albert. Louis Sullivan. New York: George Braziller, Inc., 1960. p. 20, 21, photos 29-32.
- Connely, Willard. Louis Sullivan as He Lived. New York, Horizon Press, Inc. 1960. p. 127-8, 133, 149, 159, 215, 304-5. pls. 23, 24.
- Duncan, Hugh Dalziel. Culture and Democracy. The Bodminster Press, 1965. p. 85.
- Morrison, Hugh. Louis Sullivan, Prophet of Modern Architecture. New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1935. p. 218-229, pls. 39, 40. Continued

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0			0			41	57	40
NE	0			0			87	39	42
SE	0			0					
SA	0			0					

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/2 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Henry Dovolus, Administrative Assistant

ORGANIZATION: Commission on Chicago Historical & Architectural Landmarks

DATE: July 17, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
320 North Clark Street, Room 800

CITY OR TOWN: Chicago

STATE: Illinois

CODE: 17

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. Historical Themes : (check one or more of the following)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeological Site | (Pre-Columbian) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeological Site | (Post-Columbian to 1673) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> French Influence | (1673-1780) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Frontier | (1780-1818) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Early | (1818-1850) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illinois Middle | (1850-1900) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Late | (1900-present) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Famous People | (give names & dates) |

8. Specific Date: 1890

Areas of significance (check one or more of the following)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal (historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal (pre-historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> Military |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Music |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | |

Brief statement of significance: (include all names and dates) Use additional sheets if necessary. National Register

9. Form prepared by: Louis Sullivan designed - reputed to be "the beginning of modernism."

Name and Title: _____ Date: 6/23/75

Organization: _____ Phone: _____

Street and number: _____

City or Town: _____ County: _____ Zip Code _____

During the course of the Survey we often find it necessary to search for references for a particular site. When filling out the Survey form, please list according to the following example, published references to the site for which forms are being completed. If a bibliography can be compiled, it will greatly deduct from the Survey's task.

Bibliography

Robertson, Robert, Of Whales and Men. New York, Alfred K. Knopf, Inc., 1954.

National Register material

